

F1

bottom, the column having a surface for winding the length of flexible member around, wherein the second end of the flexible member passes through the second access hole and wherein the first end of flexible member passes through the first access hole of the container;

a foot plate secured to the base of the container, the foot plate including mounting holes which extend through the foot plate;

a retainer releasably coupled to the container for holding the spool within the container; and

means for rotating the spool within the container.

2. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the retainer comprises a ring along the sidewall of the container and wherein the means for rotating the spool within the container includes a turning knob eccentrically coupled to the top of the spool within the ring.

14. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein ~~the side wall~~ defines an interior and wherein the retainer includes an overlapping edge, wherein the retainer is releasably coupled to the container so that the overlapping edge protrudes [into] over the interior to overlap the top of the spool to hold the spool within the container.

17. (Amended) A device for storing an elongate flexible member having a length, a first end and a second end, the device comprising:

a container having a base, a sidewall, and a first access hole;

a spool disposed within the container free from attachment, the spool comprising:

a bottom freely resting within the container, a top having a second access hole, and a column vertically mounted between the top and bottom independent of the base, the column having a surface for winding the length of flexible member around, wherein the second end of